PAID

Rev. A. A. Phelps

Boston

Mass. —

to this mode of abolitionism, who will do nothing for it in other way — And ought not Abolitionism seek her own? — I wish see you & say much if the Lord will. Will you not ask some what they think Dr. Cary's text was from the widow's tent in the prophet's writings, to enlarge her tent & strengthen her stakes, from which he deduced the doctrine, "attempt great things, expect great things." From here started off the noble project of the Baptist Mission in India, which has done so much, & is destined to confer blessings upon ages throughout time —

Yours truly

John R. Bodge

yet no nation is plundered & sold but the African — And our government through fear of the South dare not be active in the suppression of the slavetrade, not even in the immediate region of our own coasts. If any thing is done to put an end to this distressing human traffic it must be accomplished by abolitionists. They must devise the end and the means, — and know that both are undertaken — And at this moment the British West Indian Islands are a whitened harvest. If useful & timely instruction be not given that population, there can be no doubt, but what indolence & crime will mar, if not ruin the enterprise, at least so far as the use of them as a precedent will be concerned in this country. Rev. Mr. Payne of Troy N.Y. a coloured, educated minister goes out next month to the British Isles under the direction of the American Board of F. M. He would no doubt prefer for his own feelings, perhaps safety in the event of a white persecution, to be under the superintendence of such an one as I propose — He has from the Board $500 with the right of letting others raise it there to a $1000

Many in our country will contribute

Groton Mass. 29 Sept 1839

Rev. John R. Dodge.

Rev. A. A. Phelps

Dear Brother,

I shall be in Boston in a few days, and shall ask you why the abolitionists cannot have their own funds & board of foreign missions. One missionary can, I think, do more travelling & talking with African chiefs & end slavestealing than any amount of ships on the coast — The missionaries at the Islands in the Pacific urged their principles direct upon the heads of power & the result has been beneficial —

Those African Chiefs have humanity — it may be directed aright — Some writer, a traveller, not remembered this moment, states that in his conversations with the Chiefs, they said, why they exchanged human beings for goods, was that they were preferred to other things by their traders — This is true. But it may be changed by instructing the Chiefs & by our merchants opening a trade — All this can be, — it ought to be —

The board of foreign missions give Africa the cents & other nations the dollars —